

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 6, 2017

The Honorable Emmett V. Jordan Mayor 25 Crescent Road Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

Dear Mayor Jordan:

Prince George's County is in the process of re-qualifying its entitlement status as an urban county to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) grant funds during Federal Fiscal Years 2018-2020 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is the County's intent to use the grant funding, in part, to undertake eligible community development and housing activities that will primarily benefit low- to moderate income individuals and families residing in Prince George's County. A municipality that desires to assist the County's efforts to administer and/or provide approved activities pursuant to its CDBG, and where applicable HOME and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Programs, may elect to enter into a Cooperation Agreement with the County that authorizes the County to include the municipality's population with that of the County's incorporated areas to increase the County's annual entitlement.

If your municipality previously entered into a Cooperation Agreement with the County and/or is interested in entering into a new Cooperation Agreement with the County, the County is required to inform you of the following:

A decision to enter into a Cooperation Agreement for the purpose of participating in the County's CDBG and, where applicable, HOME programs would be effective for the three-year period that includes Federal Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Thereafter, participating municipalities may be eligible to receive project-financing assistance through the County's CDBG and, where applicable, HOME programs that will begin July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020.

Furthermore, it is important for you to understand that your decision to include your municipality's population stats for the purpose of HUD determining the County's urban county entitlement status and appropriating entitlement funds would make your municipality *ineligible to apply for entitlement funds*, with the possible exception of grant funds awarded through the State's Small Cities CDBG Program, during the applicable Qualification Period. In addition, your municipality's formula allocation under the HOME Program, if any, could only be awarded to the County and your municipality could not otherwise form a HOME consortium with other units of general local government ("UGLG") in the event that the County did not receive a HOME formula allocation during the applicable Qualification Period.

As a designated UGLG, the County is further required to inform you of the following option that address your municipality's right to either participate or elect not to participate as a UGLG under the County's urban county status during the Qualification Period are as follows:

1. A municipality may elect to be identified as one of the County's participating UGLGs during the Qualification Period, must execute and return to the County no later than June 30, 2017, two (2) copies each of the enclosed Cooperation Agreement and Certification form. The Cooperation Agreement must be authorized by the municipal governing body and executed on its behalf by you or another authorized official.

Please return the signed Cooperation Agreement and Certification form to:

Estella Alexander, Deputy Director Attention: Tannia Jackson, Administrative Aide Department of Housing and Community Development 9200 Basil Court, Suite 500 Largo, Maryland 20774

2. A municipality may elect to <u>not</u> participate as one of the County's UGLGs during the Qualification Period. By choosing this option, the municipality <u>must</u> notify HUD and Prince George's County no later than <u>June 12, 2017</u>. Notification to HUD must be in writing from you or another authorized official, and should be addressed to:

Marvin W. Turner, Director U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development District of Columbia Field Office 820 First Street, NE., Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002 Phone: 202-275-6291; Fax: 202-275-6380

Email: Marvin.Turner@hud.gov

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The County must also be informed of the municipality's decision not to participate by providing a copy of the notice sent to HUD to Ms. Estella Alexander at the address provided in Paragraph 1 above.

3. Finally, a municipality may elect **only** to participate for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 or 2019 or 2020. In any case, the municipality <u>must</u> notify HUD and Prince George's County by <u>June</u> 12, 2017 of the municipality's intentions to participate in one or more of three Fiscal Years (2018, 2019 and/or 2020) during the Qualification Period in accordance with the notification procedures outlined in Paragraph 2 above.

Under this option, a participating municipality must return a fully executed Cooperation Agreement, Certification form and evidence of the authorization to enter into the agreement to the County by June 30, 2017 in time for inclusion in the package with all of the Cooperation Agreements and Certification forms to be submitted by the County to HUD. Furthermore, please be advised that HUD will not accept Cooperation Agreements submitted after its deadline.

Failure to elect one of the three (3) options above and to provide the required notice to HUD and the County prior to the deadline will be interpreted by HUD as a notice for *exclusion* from participation. Should you need further information or additional assistance, please feel free to contact Mr. Eric C. Brown, Director, DHCD at 301-883-5531.

Sincerely,

Rushern L. Baker, III County Executive

Enclosure(s)

Cooperation Agreement Certification of Cooperation Agreement